

Librarian's Office

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Trustees of the Massachusetts
State Library

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1937



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled:

The Trustees of the State Library make this their twenty-eight annual report for the year ending November 30, 1937 under the provisions of Chapter 6, Section 37, of the General Laws (Ter. Ed.).

The term of Miss Margaret Shea expired June 1. She was reappointed for an additional term of three years by His Excellency Governor Charles F. Hurley.

President Samuel H. Wragg of the Senate and Speaker Horace T. Cahill of the House of Representatives began terms as Trustees ex officio in January 1937.

The physical condition of the library has been much improved during the year by the installation of a new type of window ventilator in the reading room and by improved lighting at the newspaper gallery and charging desk. There is a pressing need for additional steel stacks and a special appropriation for this purpose has been requested.

A satisfactory library service can be maintained only through the appropriation of sufficient funds to enable the library to purchase the books which should be added to the collection year by year. To insure this result the Trustees have asked for a small increase in the annual appropriation.

The Trustees at this time wish to record their appreciation of the excellent work done by the State Librarian since his appointment in September 1936. Mr. Dooley has made a number of changes which have materially increased the efficiency of the library and it was due to his personal efforts that the two large WPA grants were made to the State Library resulting in the saving of many thousands of dollars to the State and a great improvement in the condition of the books constituting the library's stock in trade.

JAMES F. BALLARD, *Chairman*

CHARLES T. COPELAND

MARGARET SHEA

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

I have the honor to submit the following report on the work done in the Massachusetts State Library during the year ending November 30, 1937.

The following tabulation of figures shows generally a slight advancement over the preceding year:

Main Room:	
Circulation,	41,528 volumes
Telephone reference questions,	614
Daily average attendance,	100-150
Legislative Reference Room:	
Circulation,	1,487
Telephone reference questions,	903
Total attendance,	1,537
Newspaper Room:	
Circulation,	3,912
Total attendance,	2,165

The service rendered by the Massachusetts State Library is not at all confined to the local requests made for material by members of the Legislature and other public officials but it extends to all the other states of the Union, the Federal Government, and to foreign governments throughout the world. As a consequence it is necessary for the library to maintain a complete collection of legislative material and documents published by the state, counties, cities and towns. The library now possesses almost 600,000 volumes.

There has been no physical increase in the library quarters for many years. Additional space could be utilized for the accommodation of the Legislative Reference Division.

During the past year the library has sponsored two Federal WPA projects, both of which have been of great service. One was devoted to taking an inventory of the library and cleaning the books; the other was occupied in the rebinding and repair of the old leather bound books. In the period covered by this report, 14,000 books have been rebound. A recent survey of the library discloses approximately 20,000 additional books in need of attention. Both projects will be continued as long as there is an appropriation for them and suitable work to be done.

On February 22, 1937, Washington's Birthday, the State Library received as a gift from Professor Emeritus Albert Bushnell Hart of Harvard University his private collection of papers and manuscripts which he used as Chairman of the State Program Committee of the Washington Bicentennial Commission. The formal presentation was made to His Excellency Governor Charles F. Hurley in the Hall of Flags in the presence of several thousand persons who were attending the Governor's recep-

tion. Afterward the material was on display in the State Library together with the special collection of Washingtoniana and during the day a large number of visitors inspected the State Library.

During the year there were no changes in the staff.

ADDITIONS

Number of volumes added to the library from Dec. 1, 1936, to Nov. 30, 1937:

Books

By purchase 1,447 plus 551 maps, etc.,	1,998
By domestic exchange,	1,009
By foreign exchange,	228
By gifts,	2,337
Massachusetts state publications,	387
Total,	5,959

PAMPHLETS

By purchase,	381
By domestic exchange,	1,626
By foreign exchange,	198
By gift,	4,400
Massachusetts state publications,	944
Total,	7,549
Total 1936-37,	13,508
Previous total,	574,444
Total volumes and pamphlets in library Nov. 30, 1937,	587,952

TABULATION

Volumes and pamphlets catalogued by the new plan, Dec. 1, 1936,	411,033
Volumes and pamphlets catalogued during the year,	13,529
Total volumes and pamphlets catalogued Dec. 1, 1937,	424,562
Less volumes and pamphlets reduced by binding,	1,536
Less volumes and pamphlets lost,	0
Less volumes and pamphlets discarded,	200
Net volumes and pamphlets represented in the new catalogue, Dec. 1, 1937,	422,826
Represented by 663,371 cards.	

DENNIS A. DOOLEY,

State Librarian.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS IN ACCOUNT WITH STATE LIBRARY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, DEC. 1, 1936 TO NOV. 30, 1937

Expenditures

From appropriation of \$5,700 for salary of State Librarian,	\$5,700.00
From appropriation of \$41,000 for salaries of staff,	40,620.00
From appropriation of \$10,500 for books and binding,	10,499.66
From appropriation of \$2,300 for contingent expenses,	2,299.60
From appropriation of \$7,500 for storage stacks (\$6,414 expended in 1936),	1,086.00
Total,	\$60,205.26
Salary of State Librarian,	\$5,700.00
Salary of Assistant State Librarian,	\$2,910.00
Salary of Head of Catalogue Department,	2,340.00
Salaries of 3 Library Reference Assistants,	6,360.00
Salaries of 11 Senior Library Assistants,	18,570.00
Salaries of 4 Junior Library Assistants,	5,190.00
Salaries of 3 Senior and Junior Clerks and Typists,	3,810.00
Salary of Porter,	1,440.00
Purchase of books,	\$8,174.76
Binding,	2,324.90
Annual Report for 1935-1936,	\$15.15
Contingent Expenses,	2,284.45
Storage Stacks,	1,086.00
Total,	\$60,205.26

Receipts

Sale of Constitutional Convention documents,	\$13.50
Subscription refund,	4.00
Total,	\$17.50

Financial Statement Verified

Approved,

GEO. E. MURPHY,

Comptroller.

TABLE OF ACCESSIONS

BOOKS

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
By purchase	1,755	1,630	1,532	1,674	1,829	1,781	1,520	1,527	1,418	1,358	1,591	1,203	1,475	1,998
Domestic exchange	976	1,193	1,217	1,070	1,050	1,124	1,133	1,171	1,067	1,090	911	918	959	1,009
Foreign exchange	239	190	200	199	234	186	160	216	146	174	146	149	144	228
Donation	1,654	1,430	1,239	1,464	1,413	1,857	1,486	1,692	1,766	1,673	2,089	1,735	2,005	2,337
Massachusetts state publications	393	506	349	396	548	318	393	411	353	405	440	349	374	387
Totals	5,017	4,949	4,537	4,803	5,074	5,266	4,692	5,017	4,750	4,700	5,177	4,354	4,957	5,959

PAMPHLETS

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
By purchase	306	431	496	379	637	599	512	520	427	384	423	271	326	381
Domestic exchange	1,427	1,532	1,154	1,221	1,217	1,730	1,466	1,457	1,507	2,173	1,738	1,391	1,640	1,626
Foreign exchange	119	173	86	141	107	114	186	108	114	103	89	95	123	198
Donation	3,161	3,219	3,946	4,181	3,370	3,488	3,791	3,837	3,596	4,518	5,769	3,819	3,600	4,400
Massachusetts state publications	556	718	760	544	428	433	537	470	427	630	709	613	782	944
Totals	5,569	6,073	6,442	6,466	5,759	6,364	6,492	6,392	6,071	7,808	8,728	6,189	6,471	7,549

Total volumes and pamphlets in library, November 30, 1937, 587,952.